

Subject: Coins lost after attribution

Schruff, William A., Rev.

1923

[Marietta, OH]

Marietta, Ohio, November 1st 1923.

432 Third Street.

The American Numismatic Society,

New York City.

Gentlemen,-

Some considerable time ago I wrote concerning the examination of copper coins that I picked up on an oriental tour. I am sending them by registered mail. Have the pleasure to examine and send me the result of your examination with the coins. I am enclosing stamps for return postage and registration. I still remember from the letter received that there was no charge for examination. If the rule has been changed have the pleasure to so inform me and I will remit.

Thanking you in advance for the service rendered, I am sincerely yours,

Rev. William A. Schuff.

William A. Schuff.

P.S. Postage + insurance at \$2.50 16¢

November 6th, 1923.

Rev. William A. Schruoff,
432 Third Street,
Marietta, Ohio.

Reverend dear Sir:

Your letter of November 1st has been
duly received.

The package of copper coins has arrived,
and I hope to be able to examine the contents
shortly and advise you regarding it.

Very truly yours,

Curator.

January 16th, 1924

Mr. William A. Schraff^U
432 Third Street
Marietta, Ohio

Dear Sir:

After much delay, for which I apologize, I am today returning to you the coins which you sent here for attribution. We have been able to do this in a general manner only as the coins were not really worth a more exact attribution and we also unfortunately had not the time. However, I think that what we have done will help you considerably.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E

Marietta, Ohio, January 22nd 1924.
432 Third Street.

Mr. Howland Wood,

Curator of the American Numismatic Society,
New York City.

Dear Sir,-

Your letter 16th instant came to hand. The package containing the coins arrived last Saturday, the 19th. I certainly ~~the time~~^{appreciate} the trouble and work it took to at least in a measure identify the coins. Herewith my hearty thanks.

But among the coins I sent you there were two of Palestinian origin that I did not find among the returned. I had in an incomplete manner placed them and thought by sending them to you you might be able to name the Procurator under whom they were coined. George Adam Smith in his first volume on "Jerusalem", p. 413 describes them as follows: "2. Bronze Coin (Quadrans?) of a Roman Procurator under Augustus. An ear of wheat with the legend KAICAROC; a palm-tree with two bunches of dates; the date, stamped on either side of the stem of the palm, is illegible, but the wheat ear is the same as that on coins of the Procurator Coponius, dated 8 A.D. Macdonald, iii.292, No.1; cf. Madden (ed.1903), 174." I am quite sure as to the date-palm and the size of the coin and congratulated myself on having a coin that circulated in Palestine at that early date.

Now the intrinsic value of the coins may be very small but the sentimental value is very great. To think of having a coin that passed from hand to hand in Palestine during the years that Jesus, the Christ, was on earth and that possibly it passed through His hands, - it is enough to give pleasurable emotions. Would you have the pleasure to institute a search for them, they may have been misplaced, and return them to me? Where so many coins are handled such a misplacement may occur. But I would surely like to have the coins. I am sorry to cause you the trouble of a search but put yourself in my place. I have been as proud of those two coins as I possibly could be.

Hoping for a favorable result of your^r search and that I may ^{have} the coins in hand in abrief time, I am respectfully yours,

William A. Schruoff, Pastor Trinity Methodist Epis-
William A. Schruoff copal Church, Marietta, Ohio.

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\$ 28.50

January 26th, 1924

Rev. William A. Schruoff
432 Third Street
Marietta, Ohio

Dear Sir:

We were very much distressed to learn that you did not get all of your coins back. I had my Assistant attribute them and I have taken up the matter with her. She remembers now the two Jewish coins and tells me that she thought that they belonged with a large number of these kind of coins which she was attributing for someone else. We will at once try to get them back and return them to you but there may be a delay of some days.

We are very sorry indeed that this happened, and will do our best to rectify the matter.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E

Marietta, Ohio, March 4th 1924.

432 Third Street.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,

The American Numismatic Society,

New York City.

Dear Sir,-

On January 26th you had the pleasure to indite the folowing letter to me:-

Dear Sir:

We were very much distressed to learn that you did not get all of your coins back. I had my Assistant attribute them and I have taken up the matter with her. She remembers now the tow Jewish coins and tells me that she thought that they belonged wi with a large number of these kind of coins which she was cata- loguing for some one else. We will at once try to get them back and return them to you but there may be a delay of some days.

We are sorry indeed that this happened, and will do our best to rectify the matter,

Very truly yours,

Howland Wood,

Curator.

HW/E

It is now more than a month since the receipt of the above. I think in a month some results shoïld have been achieved. Have the pleasure to write me as to the status of the matter.

Yours in all patience,

Rev. William A. Schruoff.

William A. Schruoff.

March 7th, 1924

Rev. W. A. Schruoff
432 Third Street
Marietta, Ohio

Dear Sir:

We have located your two coins but have not yet gotten them back. I have been hoping to get hold of them every day. They are locked up in a safety deposit vault together with some other coins of an Estate which we were attributing at the same time. Do not worry, you will receive them sooner or later.

Yours truly,

Curator

April 9th, 1924

Rev. William A. Schruoff
Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church
Marietta, Ohio

Dear Sir:

Yesterday we had a chance to see if your missing coins were in that lot about which I wrote you in my previous letter, and I very much regret to say that we were unable to locate them. I realize how precious these coins were to you and I am very distressed indeed that we have to write to you of the loss of them. Although we feel it is impossible to replace the sentimental value on these coins, we should be glad if you would accept the enclosed taken from our own Cabinet, and also accept our sincere apologies for this unfortunate loss.

One of the enclosed coins is undoubtedly similar to the one of yours. The other two pieces are different but we are sending you a variety with the hope that they would be more of interest to you - especially the one of Herod I.

I trust that these we are sending will in some measure make up for that which you forwarded to us early in the year. Very much regretting the circumstance, I am,

Very truly yours,

Encs.

Curator